

**Minutes  
Of the  
Delaware Bicycle Council  
October 3, 2001  
DeIDOT Administration Building**

**Members Present**

Don Carbaugh, Chair and New Castle County Representative  
Bill Boyd, At-large Representative  
Carl Anderson, At-large Representative  
Laura Madara, DNREC Representative  
Paul Stevenson, NCC Representative  
Fred Breukelman, Dept. of Public Health  
Lee Ann Walling, Sussex County Representative  
Jay Kelley, DeIDOT Representative  
George Heberling, DE State Police  
Amy Wilburn, At-Large Representative

**DeIDOT Support Staff Present**

Fritz Schranck, Deputy Attorney General  
Joseph Cantalupo, Assistant Director, Planning  
Dennis Scott, Bike/Ped Coordinator  
David Petrosky, Project Planner  
Wendy Bernard, Secretary

**Guests Present**

Tim Plemmons, Council of Greenways and Trails

**Members Absent**

Lisa Moore, Office of Highway Safety  
Janet Arns, Department of Education  
Tom Pleasanton, Kent County Representative

The meeting was called to order at 5:11 p.m.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

**Council Membership**

Don informed the council that his and Bill Boyd's terms expired in July. Don also wanted to discuss the vacancies of the COT and Council of Greenways and Trails. Lee Ann said the Greenways position had been taken care of and that Dana Levy was now a member of the DBC. As for the COT position, the COT is undergoing some reorganizing and Secretary Hayward was waiting until that was complete before he decided what to do with their vacancy.

Don also informed the Council about the Newark Bicycle Committee with Willett Kempton as it's chair. Dennis had been to one of their meetings so he filled in the DBC about the meeting. They would like a representative of the DBC to join them at their meetings and are looking forward to coordinating their efforts with the state. Don remarked that the City of Newark had important bicycle issues to address because they were a college town with a lot of pedestrians/bicyclists. The Newark Bicycle Committee will meet once every two months for daytime meetings and Don asked if any one from the DBC who would like to volunteer to join please contact him. Dave also suggested that the DBC invite a representative from the Newark committee to join the DBC as an at-large representative.

## **II. New Business**

### **DeIDOT Bicycling Priorities**

Since Lee Ann and Joe needed to leave early, we skipped ahead in the agenda to new business. Don spoke of a meeting he had with Joe Cantalupo, Ralph Reeb (the Director of Planning), Dennis Scott, and Secretary Nathan Hayward about DeIDOT Bicycling Priorities. Don asked the Secretary what the DBC could do for him. Secretary Hayward would like the DBC to help him set bicycle priorities and asked the DBC to compile a list of projects and designate one project, within reason, as a priority and he would promise to get that project done.

Don discussed that the DBC had general priorities and goals, but asked the members what specifically did the Council think would be good projects to consider. Dave remembered a list a few years back of prioritized projects. Joe said one idea would be good, and while he wasn't giving specific ideas, it might be good to give a couple of options, and to try to make the projects feasible ones that had a good chance of getting implemented, short term goals being easier to achieve than long term ones.

Fritz also mentioned that the Department was currently working on the 2003-2007 Capital Transportation Plan, which also deals with long-term projects, and agreed that the DBC should try and pick a project that could be completed within a year. As an example, State Bike Route 1 was a large project, if the Council started out with a smaller, specific project first, which would be easy to get done, it would help to build the relationship between the Department and the DBC.

Fred pointed out the Council should also keep in mind the cost vs. feasibility aspect of any project the members think of proposing. Don thought it might be a good idea to get other groups input too and mentioned something about a White Clay Bike Club survey. Lee Ann and Tim also mentioned they liked the idea of enhancing an existing project rather than creating a whole new one.

Some suggestions the members discussed were:

- Creating a safe, Route 1 type of roadway in another county
- Increased signage along bike routes. For example, share the road signs.
- Making a policy that all new projects need bike lanes
- Increased shoulder sweeping and maintenance and the purchase of more sweepers
- Wider publicized Bike Month with a full media campaign.

Fritz spoke on the shoulder sweeping idea and stated that the EPA and National Pollution agency has a commitment with New Castle County for a sweeping schedule. He offered to get that schedule for Don. He also stated that there were federal mandates in place that the state had to follow with regards to sweeping and maintenance.

Carl spoke on the increased signage idea and that the signage on Bike Route 1 was really good, but other bicycle friendly routes were not well signed and could use some better markings and shoulders. For example, Route 896 out of Newark, Limestone Road, Mill Pond Road, and Papermill Road. Amy agreed that better markings would be beneficial because they help bicyclists feel comfortable and give a sense of ownership for the bike lane. Tim suggested maybe changing the language of the signs. Dennis said that he had seen signs which showed a motor vehicle and bicyclist sharing the road instead of only a bicycle. Tim said he had seen different colored signs too.

Don thought there was a bike road network map of major routes a while ago with Dan Lacombe, Wendy offered to get in touch with Dan and see if he still has it. Don suggested having the bike routes swept more frequently. Paul said the Council could lay out a bike network from New Castle County to the beaches and DeIDOT could add markings to them and a more frequent sweeping schedule along those routes.

Lee Ann spoke of the different funding options that could be used to finance these projects such as Community Transportation Funds. She suggested it would be a good idea for the DBC to send out letters to communities and legislators to remind them that these funds are there and some possible project ideas.

Through the discussion of these possible project ideas, most agreed on looking into the idea of having shoulders better maintained and markings added to a network of connected bike paths from New Castle County to the beaches as the best one. Don suggested closing the subject for the evening and forming a subcommittee to identify which routes the DBC wanted in the network, the Council voted to do that. Don then asked for volunteers. Carl, Tim, Fred, and Lee Ann volunteered to be part of the subcommittee and they decided to meet on Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm.

## **Livable Delaware**

Lee Ann informed the Council that there was to be a summit on Saturday, Nov 17<sup>th</sup> at the Capital Theater from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to discuss Transfer Rights. Elected officials, county staff, civic organizations, and the general public were invited. Don, Tim, and Paul said they would probably go.

Lee Ann also mentioned that Don was on the Community Design Board.

*Due to the discussion on projects for Sec. Hayward and time constraints the Council decided to pick the key agenda items for the rest of the meeting.*

## **Rail to Trail Study**

There was an abandoned rail line meeting at the end of September with DNREC, DTC, DeIDOT and Don. Don pointed out that using an inactive rail line for a trail does not preclude that line from being used for rail in the future. Tim asked about the feasibility of shared use and who would own the right-of-way.

## **New Castle Rail to Trail**

Tim spoke on introducing the project to the City of New Castle. He said the Penn Acres group had some questions. He stated the project was a good opportunity because there were a lot of right-of-way and the trail was located in a densely populated area. There needed to be a feasibility study done on the project. Paul suggested Tim get in touch with the riverfront businesses to help with some of the funding. Tim said that the next step in the project was to secure funds.

## **Bike Plan**

The first meeting of the Statewide Bike Plan Advisory Committee (SAC) was on Sept 19<sup>th</sup>. Dennis, Carl, Don, Tim, and Tom all participated. The plan should be complete within the next 8-10 months. The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>. There were questions raised by WILMAPO's Non-Motorized Transportation Committee on how flexible the plan was going to be and if it would just include state roads. There was to be a meeting with Dennis and them before the Nov 28<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting.

## **NCC Bike Map**

Dave had a draft version of the map which he showed the Council. He also had surveys at the Wilmington Transportation Festival and had about 25-30 surveys filled in. He asked the council to fill out the survey and to distribute it to anyone they could. The map will be similar to the Kent/Sussex map in the color scheme, BLOS ratings, and ATD Traffic to keep consistency. This map will be adding safety information. The photo contest for the map had ended and the map is scheduled to be done in 8 months.

One suggestion the WILMPACO Non-Motorized Transportation Committee had was to add a fourth level of service and have the A & B levels in two different colors instead of the same one.

Fred asked if icons could be added to point out attractions and points of interest.

Bill inquired about detailed views of the cities.

## **Bike Transportation Guide**

Dennis informed the Council the guide was complete and handed out some out along with the new trinkets he had gotten in. He also passed out a Bicycle Planning survey and asked the members to fill it in.

## **Website**

It was suggested the DBC website include a calendar of events, current bike issues, Greenway and DNREC information, and information on upcoming educational meetings.

### **Coordinator's Update/ Committee Reports**

Dennis said there was a new AASHTO pedestrian guide which included a paragraph on regulations on maintenance and street sweeping. Jay said there was also information regarding turn lanes.

Bud informed the Council of an upcoming event, the Tour de Port in Baltimore being held on Oct 21<sup>st</sup>. He also commented that, from the earlier discussion, he like the bike route idea to take to Sec. Hayward and felt the current share the road signs were not effective.

Dave also liked the bike route idea.

Don was going to look into resurrecting the project RBA was working on.

Laura announced the Oct 14<sup>th</sup> Halloween Hootenanny at the park and asked to have some DBC trinkets to hand out.

The White Clay Bike Club was having an Oct 20th Crab Ride starting at Holt's Landing and Paul was looking for riders or volunteers.

Tim handed out a map for the Delaware Greenways.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

**The Next DBC Meeting will be on December 5th from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.  
At the DeIDOT Admin. Building in the  
Dover Conference Room**